

Rome, February 9, 1972

Rev. Father Aloysius Ellacuria
Fatima (Portugal)

My dear Father,

I am writing to answer to your auestions made in Fatima and which I brought to Rome. I do not know if I have been a good advocate. One thing is right: the solution we are giving you has many advantages and avoids many inconvenients. Let the Almighty God act.

You will find below our General Government's advice, after careful study of every document in our possession during the Council on the 7th.:

1. The group of American youngsters, actually novices in our Noviciate in Fatima, follow purposes and methods that, being good, are not in accordance with the purposes and methods of our Congregation.
2. By this reason, this American group mus be separated from the Portuguese group. Regarding the ~~pinex~~ locals to be occupied you Rev. will speak with our Provincial about when and how you will do this change.
3. The Group created by you must be considered as a new foundation. In this moment, we can not recognize and classify it amongst our own Claretian's mission. You shall also ~~find~~ look for a non claretian name to this group.
4. I am writing today to the Bishop of Leiria and I have recommended to him the new foundation in order to be accepted by him, first as association recognized ~~by~~ by him and after as diocesan institute, as you mention in the letter you gave me. Thus, we follow the canonical law and the praxis of the Church.
5. To settle your persomnal position please talk with Father Provincial, Father O'Connor, so that he can obtain you a licence to stay out of Community during 1-3 years, without leaving to be a claretian. I think the Bishop will give you his kind Nihil Obstat. I am writing to F ther O'Connor on this matter.
6. P. Palacin, Provincial of Cantabria, will go by Fatima, when of his trip to Bolivia to see if he can be helpful.

I think that the solution we are giving you is more positive than negative. The important is that, as occured with your Religious Sisters, you have no fear in following your autonomous line with your group of students, if the Church recognizes it through the Bishop.

Speaking of this, please note that the name of the Religious Sisters you found is being already employed by another religion congregation approved by the Church. When approving yours, you will be obliged to change the denomination. So, it would be advisable you change it from now with some difference, addition or cut.

Sincerely yours,

I suppose your health is better. Let us pray for that. Regards to your

Rome, February 9, 1972

Rev. Father Alvarado Elias
Batima (Portugal)

My dear Father,

I am writing to answer to your questions made in Batima and which I brought to Rome. I do not know if I have been a good advocate, the thing is right: the solution we are giving you has many advantages and avoids many inconveniences. Let the Almighty God act.

You will find below our General Government's advice, after careful study of every document in our possession during the Council on the 7th.

1. The group of American youngsters, actually novices in our Novitiate in Batima, follow purposes and methods that, being good, are not in accordance with the purposes and methods of our congregation.

2. By this reason, this American group must be separated from the Portuguese group. Regarding the future locale to be occupied you Rev. will speak with our Provincial about when and how you will do this change.

3. The group created by you must be considered as a new foundation. In this moment, we can not recognize and classify it amongst our own Christian's mission. You shall also find for a non Christian name to this group.

4. I am writing today to the Bishop of Leiria and I have recommended to him the new foundation in order to be accepted by him. First as association recognized by him and after as diocesan institute, as you mention in the letter you gave me. Thus, we follow the canonical law and the precepts of the Church.

5. To settle your personal position please talk with Father Provincial, Father O'Connor, so that he can obtain you a license to stay out of Community during 1-3 years, without leaving to be a Christian. I think the Bishop will give you his kind nihil obstat. I am writing to Father O'Connor on this matter.

6. P. Palacin, Provincial of Cantabria, will go by Batima, when of his trip to Bolivia to see if he can be helpful.

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